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**Sent:** 1/2/2018 7:59:03 AM  
**To:** Tarr, Jeremy M [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=98859532088e4437968231eb6fef6b70-jmtarr1]  
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January  
2, 2018

## Despite Efforts To Trip It Up, New Energy Economy Remains On Sound Footing

By Ken Silverstein, Forbes • • Posted 2018-01-02 06:10:36

A decade into the New Energy Economy, the country is not turning back. Falling electricity costs and continually improving technologies mean that the prospects for both solar and wind energy continue to brighten at the expense of coal. Innovation and competitive pricing are at the heart of the transformation, making renewable energy the hottest commodity when it comes to generating electricity. Indeed, its price is at least on par with more traditional sources of energy and causing some utilities to rethink their long-range business plans. [ [read more ...](#) ]

## Wind Power Means Jobs in Texas, and Partisan Politics Isn't Going to Stop It

By Meera Subramanian, InsideClimate News • • Posted 2018-01-02 06:12:37

"The wind industry has changed my life, and it's changed it for the better," James Beall told me as we stood at the base of one of those industrial versions of an old-growth tree, a 2 megawatt DeWind turbine that Texas State Technical College (TSTC) owns and uses to train its students to become wind energy technicians. While four of those students climbed 258 rungs of a vertical ladder to the nacelle, the streamlined mechanical housing at the top of the turbine, James and I awaited an elevator to take us up. From here on the ground, the nacelle, perched on its 300-foot column, looked tiny. It was actually the size of a bus. [ [read more ...](#) ]

## Wyoming Wind Energy Set To Explode

By Tina Casey, Clean Technica • • Posted 2018-01-02 06:11:11

Suddenly everybody is talking about Wyoming wind energy, and for good reason. The state is one of the epicenters of coal production in the US, but it is also blessed with rich wind resources. Wind farms have plenty of room to blossom in Wyoming. If you're thinking that the state's low population won't be able to suck up all that extra juice, no worries. Power-

thirsty California is just a short hop away and a new transmission line is in the works. [ [read more ...](#) ]

## **Winds of Worry: US Fishermen Fear Forests of Power Turbines**

By Philip Marcelo, Associated Press • • Posted 2018-01-02 06:12:51

East Coast fishermen are turning a wary eye toward an emerging upstart: the offshore wind industry. In New Bedford, Massachusetts, the onetime whaling capital made famous in Herman Melville's "Moby-Dick," fishermen dread the possibility of navigating a forest of turbines as they make their way to the fishing grounds that have made it the nation's most lucrative fishing port for 17 years running. [ [read more ...](#) ]

## **Wind Energy: The Good News in Offshore**

By William Stoichevski, Marine Technology News • • Posted 2018-01-02 06:10:56

Block Island — U.S.-based Deepwater Wind's five-turbine, 30-MW wind park — was the first. It showed what was possible, what might not have been optimal and how long it all takes. Since then, incentives for onshore-wind have been curbed, while a tax credit for offshore wind has been extended. Wind parks are in the works. States have power companies buying offshore wind energy, and experienced offshore operators are hiring the new wind-service vessels from elements of their oil-and-gas supply chain. The Jones Act, too, is being overcome by fleet owners and designers joining the U.S. offshore wind build-up. [ [read more ...](#) ]

## **South Dakota manufacturing plant due to close gets welcome news, will stay open**

By Jeremy J Fugleberg, Argus Leader • • Posted 2018-01-02 06:11:32

An Aberdeen manufacturing plant slated to close, eliminating 400 jobs, got welcome news this holiday season. Ohio-based Molded Fiber Glass Cos., which manufactures wind turbine blades, said it had received a "substantial new order" that would keep the Aberdeen plant open at least until the final months of 2018. [ [read more ...](#) ]

## **Clean Line Sells Okla. Portion of Plains & Eastern to NextEra**

By Tom Kleckner, RTO Insider • • Posted 2018-01-02 06:11:51

Clean Line Energy Partners announced that it has sold all the assets of the Oklahoma portion of the multistate Plains & Eastern Clean Line transmission project to NextEra Energy for an undisclosed sum. In a press release, Clean Line said the transaction would continue the "forward momentum" of the Plains & Eastern project and "install a new sponsor to a transmission solution to the burgeoning wind sector in Oklahoma" and SPP. Under the agreement, the company will retain its assets east of Oklahoma. [ [read more ...](#) ]

## **Power Prices Go Negative in Germany, a Positive for Energy Users**

By STANLEY REED, New York Times • • Posted 2018-01-02 06:13:19

Germany has spent \$200 billion over the past two decades to promote cleaner sources of



electricity. That enormous investment is now having an unexpected impact — consumers are now actually paid to use power on occasion, as was the case over the weekend. Power prices plunged below zero for much of Sunday and the early hours of Christmas Day on the EPEX Spot, a large European power trading exchange, the result of low demand, unseasonably warm weather and strong breezes that provided an abundance of wind power on the grid. [ [read more ...](#) ]

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